A N N U A L R E P O R T

O F T H E

S A N I T A R Y C O N D I T I O N S

O F T H E R U R A L D I S T R I C T

O F

VAYNOR

AND

PENDERYN

I N

T H E C O U N T Y O F B R E C K N O C K

F O R T H E Y E A R

1965.

VAYNOR AND PENDERYN RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

CHAIRMAN : 1964 - 1965

Councillor A.S. Williams.

MEMBERS :

Councillor W.E. BOWEN.
Councillor W.A. BUTT.
Councillor M. BYRNE.
Councillor A. DRIVER.
Councillor D.T. EVANS.
Councillor J.R.R. ILES.
Councillor D.O. JONES.
Councillor J. JONES.
Councillor The Revd. T.M. WALTERS.

Clerk

VERNON ROSE, Esq.,

47A, High Street, Merthyr Tydfil.

Medical Officer of Health

Dr. C.E. EDWARDS, B.Sc., M.B., B.Ch., D.P.H.
47A, High Street, Merthyr Tydfil.

Public Health Inspector

SPENCER P. HARRIS, Esq., M.A.P.H.I.
47A, High Street, Merthyr Tydfil.

Treasurers

BARCLAYS BANK LIMITED
Merthyr Tydfil.

To the Chairman and Members of the Vaynor and

Penderyn Rural District Council.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report on the Health and Sanitary Conditions, and the Vital Statistics relating to the Rural District for the year 1965, according to the Circular issued by the Ministry of Health.

The number of Post War houses erected up to the 31st December, 1964, was 824 of which 111 were built privately. The number of houses under construction by the Authority at the 31st December, 1965, was nil and the number under construction by private builders was 4.

During the year there have been no serious outbreaks of notifiable infectious diseases in the area, and the general health of the District has been good. There were no cases of Tuberculosis, but One case was transferred into the Area. The majority of deaths during the year were again in the higher age groups.

I wish to thank the Members of the Council for their co-operation and consideration in all matters appertaining to the Public Health Department; and also to thank the Officers and Staff of the Council for their help during the year in matters affecting the work carried out in the Department.

I am,

Yours faithfully,

C.E. Edwards,

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

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BOUNDARIES.

PARISH OF VAYNOR - East Side: The Taf Fechan River from its junction with the Taf Fawr River as far as the junction with the Car Brook.

North Side: From the Car Brook to the junction of the Llysiog Brook with the Taf Fawr River.

West Side: The Taf Fawr River from its junction with the Taf Fechan River to the junction of the Llysiog Brook and the Taf Fawr River.

PARISH OF PENDERYN - East Side: The Taf Fawr River from the Ffrwd Brook to Nantygourgan.

North Side: From Nantygourgan, where it joins the River Hepste, to the junction of the Rivers Hepste and Mellte and from the River Mellte to Dinas Rock.

South Side: From Dinas Rock, following Cwmmant Brook to the Cynon River near Lletty Rhys, and the Cynon River as far as the junction of Nant Hir at Cwmynysmwntan, and following Nant Hir Brook to Nant Ffrwd Brook to its junction with the Taf Fawr River.

PARISH OF YSTRADFELLTE - North Side: From Carn-yr-Onen to Nant-yr-Eira.

South Side: From Heol-las to Scwd Eira, and along the Afon Mellte to the Bridge at Pontneathvaughan.

East Side: From Nant-yr-Eira to Blaen Hepste and along the River Hepste to Heol-las.

West Side: Afon Nedd at Pontneathvaughan Bridge to Nant-y-Bryn and Nant-y-Bryn to Carn-yr-Onen.

TOPOGRAPHY

The Rural District comprises the three parishes of Vaynor, Penderyn and Ystradfellte, in the County of Brecon. The Parish of Ystradfellte, which had been administered by the Neath Rural District Council, was added to this Rural Authority by a Review Order of 1st April, 1934.

The three parishes comprised in this Rural District are of considerable extent. The total area being 39,271 acres, or over 61 square miles, with an average length of 8 miles and a width of about 12 miles. They are situated on the Southern Boundary of the County of Brecon, and adjoin the districts of Neath, Aberdare and Merthyr Tydfil in the County of Glamorgan. They form four valleys in the foothills of the South Escarpment of the Brecknockshire Beacons with high table-lands between.

The PARISH OF VAYNOR comprises two valleys running northwards towards two spurs of the Brecknock Beacons, and the PARISH OF PENDERYN consists of high table-land adjoining and emerging towards the same mountainous area. These Rural Parishes are only seperated by the narrow streams already mentioned, from the County of Glamorgan, and the important populous Urban Districts of Merthyr Tydfil, and Aberdare on the South. The PARISH OF YSTRADFELLTE presents similar physical features extending from the rugged Van mountains to the North, covering a rough, hilly table-land intersected by two very narrow valleys converging towards an apex at Pontneathvaughan.

ELEVATION.

The District, as a whole, is at a great elevation above sea level, varying from 263 feet to no less than 2,250 feet; it will be realised that the nearly 40,000 acres contained in the area includes a considerable amount of sparsely inhabited mountain land. In the Parish of Vaynor, the levels extend from 645 feet near Cefn Bridge to 1,612 feet at Twyn-y-Croes on the mountain above Cwm Glais. Penderyn Parish presents levels varying from 588 feet at Cynon Bridge, Hirwaun, to 1,376 feet at the top of Twyn, Cadlan, while the Parish of Ystradfellte contains such extreme variations of level as 263 feet at the Bridge at Pontneathvaughan and 2,250 feet near the top of Fan Fawr, which is partly in the Parish.

CLIMATE.

The proximity of the well known range of mountains known as the Brecknock Beacons, accounts for the rather heavy rainfall that prevails. Some of the largest reservoirs in Wales are partly in the Rural District.

ACREAGE

Vaynor...	6,549.706 acres.
Penderyn.	13,366.337 acres.
Ystradfellte... ...	19,355.000 acres.
	39,271.043 acres.

RATEABLE VALUE as at 30th September, 1965.

Parish of Vaynor.	£.	100,845.	0. 0d.
Parish of Penderyn.	£.	59,537.	0. 0d.
Parish of Ystradfellte. ...	£.	16,326.	0. 0d.
Public Services.	£.	4,767.	0. 0d.
	£.	181,475.	0. 0d.

PRODUCT OF A PENNY RATE.

Parish of Vaynor.	£.	387.	18. 11d.
Parish of Penderyn.	£.	218.	18. 5d.
Parish of Ystradfellte. ...	£.	66.	3. 2d.
Public Services.	£.	21.	11. 2d.
	£.	694.	11. 8d.

POPULATION - CENSUS RETURNS.

Census, 1961.

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Vaynor	1,797.	1,862.	3,659.
Penderyn	1,017.	998.	2,015.
Ystradfellte	333.	305.	638.
			6,312.

Census Returns:-

	1901.	1911.	1921.	1931.	1951.
Vaynor and Penderyn.	4,766.	5,526.	5,674.	5,021.	5,036.
Ystradfellte.	-	629.	613.	650.	616.

Estimated population (Registrar General's Figure) for mid 1965 was 6,430.

V I T A L S T A T I S T I C S

BIRTHS	M.	F.	Total.	B.C.C.
No. of Legitimate Live Births	50.	66.	116.	812.
No. of Illegitimate Live Births	3.	3.	6.	53.
Total Live Births	53.	69.	122.	865.
Live Birth Rate per 1,000 population			18.98	15.88.
Illegitimate Live Births percentage of Total Live Births			4.918%	6.12%
Registrar General's Comparability Factor			1.02	1.12.
No. of Stillbirths - Legitimate	2.	1.	3.	17.
No. of Stillbirths - Illegitimate	-	-	-	3.
Stillbirth Rate per 1,000 Live and Stillbirths			24.	22.59.
Total Live and Stillbirths	55.	70.	125.	885.

DEATHS	M.	F.	Total	B.C.C.
Total Deaths all causes	33.	25.	58.	696.
Crude death Rate per 1,000 population			9.02	12.78.
Corrected death rate			10.47	
Registrar General's Comparability Factor			1.16	0.90
Cancer Deaths All Forms	6.	5.	11.	104.
Cancer deaths per 1,000 population			1.71	1.90.

INFANT MORTALITY	M.	F.	Total	B.C.C.
Deaths under One year Legitimate and Illegitimate	2.	5.	7.	17.
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Live Births			57.37	19.65
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Legitimate Births			51.72	19.70
Neo-natal Mortality Rate	1.	2.	3.	11.
			24.59	12.71.
Porinatal Mortality Rate (Deaths of infants under 1 week of age) plus the number of Stillbirths. Rate per 1,000 total live and stillbirths			48.00	30.50
Maternal Mortality (including abortion)			NIL.	NIL.

CAUSES OF DEATH

	M.	F.	Total.
Infective and Parasitic Diseases.	1.	-	1.
Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach.	1.	-	1.
Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus.	2.	-	2.
Malignant Neoplasm, Breast.	-	3.	3.
Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms.	3.	2.	5.
Diabetes.	1.	-	1.
Vascular Lesions of Nervous System.	8.	3.	11.
Coronary Disease, Angina.	6.	4.	10.
Other Heart Disease.	2.	1.	3.
Other Circulatory Disease.	3.	2.	5.
Pneumonia.	-	1.	1.
Other Diseases of Respiratory System.	2.	-	2.
Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum.	-	1.	1.
Congential Malformations.	-	2.	2.
Other Defined and Ill-defined Diseases.	3.	5.	8.
Motor Vehicle Accidents.	1.	1.	2.
Totals:	33.	25.	58.

HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA

AMBULANCE FACILITIES. The Brecon County Council administer the Ambulance Service of the area under the National Health Act, 1946. The Health Department of the County Council have made arrangements with neighbouring Authorities to provide ambulance facilities for our area as follows:-

Parish of Vaynor	-	County Borough of Merthyr Tydfil.
Hirwaun, Penderyn, Ystradfellte and Pontneathvaughan.	-	Glamorgan County Council.

Infectious disease cases in our area utilise the services of the Mardy Isolation Hospital, Merthyr Tydfil, and Cimla Hospital, Neath.

NURSING AT HOME. This work which was undertaken by Voluntary Nursing Associations until 5th July, 1948, is now carried out by the County Council.

CLINICS. Clinics are still administered by the County Council, and Clinics for expectant mothers and Infant Welfare are held at Cefn Coed and Hirwaun.

HOSPITALS. There are no Hospitals in the Council's area, but we are fortunate in having hospital facilities in the adjoining Urban areas of Merthyr Tydfil, Aberdare and Neath.

LABORATORY SERVICES. Arrangements have been made for the services of the Public Health Laboratories of the Institute of Preventive Medicine, The Parade, Cardiff, to be utilised for all chemical and bacteriological analyses examination required by this Authority.

WATER SUPPLY. The district which has several supplies of piped water, has, on the whole, been satisfactorily supplied with water. Cefn Coed, in the Vaynor Parish, is supplied from the mains of the Taf Fechan Water Supply Board, as is the greater part of the Vaynor Parish.

In the Parish of Penderyn, Hirwaun is supplied by the mains of the Aberdare Urban District Council. At Penderyn the water supply is obtained from two sources:-

(a) The Borehole Supply at Llygad y Cynon, which ensures a clean and wholesome supply of filtered and chlorinated water for the Penderyn village and the majority of the farms.

(b) An alternative supply is available from the Cadlan and Ogof Fawr catchment area, this supply is chlorinated at Cadlan Pump-house by means of a semi-automatic apparatus installed in 1944.

Pontneathvaughan, in the Parish of Ystradfellte, is supplied by the mains of the Neath Rural District Council. The water supply to the village of Ystradfellte is also supplied from the mains of the Neath Rural District Council. This supply however has not given connections to the outlying farms and homesteads.

During the year samples of water were taken for bacteriological and chemical examination from the Council mains and also from farms.

DRAINAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL WORKS. The Council has provided effecient drainage and sewage works for the whole of the area with the exception of the small hamlet of Ystradfellte. The disposal of sewage from the Hirwaun district is undertaken by the Aberdare Urban District Council under a joint scheme. Five other seperate systems of sewage disposal are operated by this Council throughout the area, they are situated at Trebanog, Penderyn; Dinas, Pontneathvaughan; Godre'r Coed, Cefn Coed; The Ynys, Pontsticill; and at Rees's Wood, Trefechan.

Consultant Engineers have been engaged to ascertain whether it is possible to link up the Cefn Coed Sewers with the new Merthyr County Borough Council's main which is to be constructed from the Goitre area linking up with the South Boundary of Cefn Coed.

REFUSE COLLECTION. Refuse is collected in the Cefn Coed, Hirwaun, Trefechan, Penderyn and Pontneathvaughan districts twice a week; and once a week at Pontsticill and Ystradfellte.

REFUSE DISPOSAL. Refuse collected in the Vaynor Parish is mainly deposited at Vaynor. Refuse from the Penderyn and Ystradfellte Parishes is deposited at Trebanog, Penderyn.

Care is taken to ensure that the refuse deposited at these tips does not become a breeding ground for vermin. These tips are regularly visited and baited when necessary.

SLAUGHTER-HOUSES. There are no slaughter-houses in the Council's area. All meat for human consumption in this area is supplied from slaughter-houses in adjoining areas.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938. A close inspection is made of meat and other food sold in retail establishments through-out the area. Two hundred and forty five visits were made to butcher shops, food retailers, fried fish shops, ice cream premises, cafes and public houses during the year.

Bye-laws under Section 15 of this Act have been adopted and brought into operation by this Council.

Condemnation certificates are issued in respect of food stuffs condemned in our area, in accordance with the various Food Regulations issued by the Ministries concerned. The following articles of food were condemned during the year, as being unfit for human consumption:-

Stewed Steak	2 lbs.	Tomatoes (tinned)	10 lbs.
Peas (tinned)	6 lbs.	Pork (tinned)	4 lbs.
Peaches	2 lbs.	Poultry	20 lbs.

LICENSED PREMISES. Visits have been paid to all the licensed premises in our area, and it is pleasing to note that improvements continue to be made to raise the standard of these premises in every possible manner.

Every house is endeavouring to utilise the provision of proper facilities for cleansing glasses and utensils, and serving refreshments in an hygenic manner.

The sanitary accommodation of these premises has been improved, and the owners of these premises are always willing to co-operate in providing amenities and alterations.

FARMS, DAIRIES AND COWSHEDS. Since the 1st October, 1949, the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, has been responsible for farms, dairies and cowsheds, under the Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949. The Local Authority, therefore, have no control over the inspection of these premises other than under the Infectious Diseases Regulations and the Tuberculosis Acts. The Local Authority is however, responsible for dealing with the water supply to these farms and, in this connection, the County Agricultural Executive Committee has co-operated in endeavouring to supply a piped water supply to the farms. The Local Authority is now also responsible for the carrying out of the requirements of the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949, which was formerly carried out by the County Agricultural Executive Committee.

MILK SAMPLING. The Milk produced in the area is mainly collected and transported to milk factories where it is pasteurised. This milk is tested and examined on arrival at the factories by the laboratories attached.

During the year Nine samples of producer-retailer milk were taken for bacteriological examination and keeping qualities.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949. Under this Act, the Local Authority is responsible for the survey of the whole area in relation to infestation by rats and mice.

The work of surveying and inspecting the district has been carried out, under the supervision and direction of the Public Health Inspector. A full time Rodent Operator is employed in the Public Health Department, and he is, at certain times of the year, assisted by temporary employees.

The sewer systems in the Local Authority's area have in accordance with the provision made by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, been treated twice during the year. These maintainance treatments have been carried out in conjunction with surface properties.

This area, being of rural character, has necessitated a close watch being kept on the infestation of river banks and culverts near villages. The refuse tips in the area have been dealt with at regular intervals and are inspected weekly to prevent any infestation occuring or remaining on these lands. This work, on refuse tips, is also maintained in the region of the Sewage Disposal Works, where no major infestations have been found during the past year.

During the year, special attention has been paid to premises where food is stored or prepared for human consumption. These premises are visited regularly and it is pleasing to note that few complaints are received, or evidence found, of infestation in such premises. The occupiers of these premises are aware of the damage likely to be caused by rodent infestation and have taken great care to keep their premises in a satisfactory manner.

OFFICE, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963. Prescribed Particulars included in the Annual Report submitted under Section 60 of the Act to H.M. Inspector of Factories for the year ended 31st December, 1965 are as follows:-

Class of Premises	Number of premises registered during the year.	Total No. of registered premises at end of year	No. of registered premises receiving a general inspection during the year.	Number of persons employed
Offices.	Nil.	6.	6.	7.
Retail Shops.. ...	Nil.	7.	7.	13.
Wholesale shops, warehouses.	Nil.	-	-	-
Catering Establishments open to the Public, Canteens.	Nil.	1.	1.	2.
Fuel storage depots.	Nil.	1.	1.	3.
TOTALS:	Nil.	15.	15.	25.

Total Number of inspections to registered premises = 41.
Total number of persons employed = 25 (10 males 15 Females)

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES IN 1965.

	Total cases Notified.	Deaths
Scarlet Fever	1.	-
Dysentry	1.	-

TUBERCULOSIS

New Cases and Mortality During 1965.

	New Cases				Deaths			
Ages	Pulmonary.		Non - Pulmonary.		Pulmonary.		Non - Pulmonary.	
YEARS.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0 - 5.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
6 - 15.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
16 - 25.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
26 - 35.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
36 - 45.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
46 - 65.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Over 65.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTALS:	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

The total number of Tuberculosis cases remaining on the Register at the 31st December, 1965, was 31. This figure is made up as follows:-

Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
M.	F.	M.	F.
17.	9.	3.	2

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 to 1959

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH IN RESPECT OF THE YEAR 1965, FOR THE RURAL DISTRICT OF VAYNOR AND PENDERYN IN THE COUNTY OF BRECKNOCK.

Prescribed Particulars on the Administration of the Factories Act, 1937.

Part 1 of the Act

1. INSPECTIONS for Purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors).

Premises. (1)	No on Register (2)	Number of Inspections (3)	Written Notices (4)	Occupiers prosecuted. (5)
(1) Factories in which Secs. 1,2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities.	8.	27.	-	-
(2) Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.	3.	9.	-	-
(3) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding Out-Workers premises)	4.	8.	-	-
TOTAL:	15.	44.	-	-

CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND

(If defects are discovered at the premises on two, three or more seperate occassions they should be reckoned as two, three or more "cases").

Particulars.	No. of cases in which defects were found.				No of cases in which prosecutions were instituted.
	Found.	Remedied.	To H.M. Inspector.	By H.M. Inspector.	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate Ventilation (S.4)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate Drainage of floors (S.6)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	1.	1.	-	-	-
(c) Not seperate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Out-work)	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL:	1.	1.	-	-	-

PART V111 OF THE ACT

OUTWORK

(Sections 110 and 111)

There are no Outworkers in the area.